

CEC *inside your* co-op

For members of Choctaw Electric Cooperative | AUGUST 2026

Making Their Mark

CEC Youth Tour delegates learn how they can shape the future

As America celebrated its 250th anniversary, the 2026 Electric Cooperative Youth Tour theme, “Make Your Mark,” challenged students to think about the role they will play in shaping their communities and their country.

Emerson McElroy, SadieLynn Bundy and Clay Loard represented CEC during the 2026 Electric Cooperative Youth Tour, June 13-19 in Washington, D.C. They joined 70 students from across Oklahoma and more than 1,700 delegates from 45 states for the weeklong leadership program.

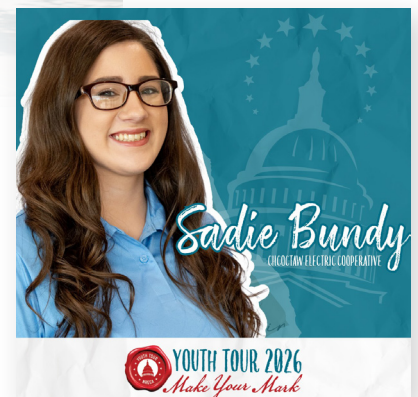
The 2026 theme, “Make Your Mark,” encouraged delegates to see leadership as something built through service, participation and a willingness to get involved. Throughout the week, students explored the nation’s capital while learning how government works and how individual voices can shape the future.

The group visited historic landmarks,

including the U.S. Capitol, the Lincoln Memorial and Arlington National Cemetery. During Capitol Hill Day, delegates met with members of Oklahoma’s congressional delegation and their staff, then heard from public policy professionals and Oklahoma Youth Tour alumni now serving on Capitol Hill. The conversations offered a behind-the-scenes look at how legislation is shaped, why advocacy matters and how young people can become involved in the democratic process.

Beyond educational experiences, Youth Tour gave students the chance to connect with peers from rural communities across Oklahoma and the country. Choctaw Electric Cooperative is proud to invest in programs that prepare the next generation of informed, engaged leaders.

Learn more about Youth Tour:
choctawelectric.net/youth-tour



Choctaw Electric Cooperative

Serving members in Choctaw, Pushmataha, Atoka, McCurtain, Bryan and LeFlore counties.

CONNECT WITH US

Monday-Friday | 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

24 Hour Outage Line

(800) 780-6486

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Your share of our success

Choctaw Electric Cooperative returns \$2.1 million to members

This month, I am pleased to share some exciting news: the retirement of capital credits for the year 2004 and a portion of 2005. This retirement underscores Choctaw Electric Cooperative's commitment to our members and reflects our financial health.

Capital credits represent your ownership stake in Choctaw Electric Cooperative. They are a tangible benefit of your membership. Through prudent financial management, we allocate margins to our members based on kilowatt-hours used.



CEO Kooney Duncan

In Choctaw Electric Cooperative's early years, we retained excess income to develop new assets. Now, with our solid financial footing and additional revenue streams, we are returning surplus margins from past years, demonstrating our commitment to our not-for-profit status.

This year, we are returning a total allocation of \$1,916,271.82 from Choctaw Electric Cooperative. In addition, we are returning \$267,000.13 from

Western Farmers Electric Cooperative (WFEC), our wholesale power supplier, for a total of \$2,183,271.95. As an owner in WFEC, Choctaw Electric

Cooperative passes these benefits directly to you, our members.

The average capital credit check will be \$205.99, which is more than the average monthly electric bill of \$167.69. Members anticipating a check can expect to receive it in September.

The decision to retire capital credits is a testament to the sound financial

planning and governance by our board of trustees. During our budgeting process, the board prioritizes returning excess margins to our members. The retirement of capital credits represents our cooperative's values of transparency, accountability, and always putting you, our valued members, first.

I hope you'll also plan to attend Choctaw Electric Cooperative's Annual Meeting on September 26. I look forward to seeing you there!

How do capital credits work?

Because CEC is a not-for-profit electric cooperative, any excess revenues, called margins, are returned to members in the form of capital credits.

At the end of the year, CEC completes financial matters and determines whether there are excess revenues, called margins.



CEC allocates the margins to members as capital credits based upon their use of electricity during the year.

When CEC's financial condition permits, the board of trustees decides to retire, or pay, the capital credits.



CEC mails capital credits checks, with the amount based on a member's kWh of electricity used in the years being retired.



Operations update: strengthening our system in 2026

During the first half of 2026, Choctaw Electric Cooperative has made significant progress on system improvements, with projects focused on strengthening reliability and reducing future outages.

As of July 1, crews have replaced approximately 800 utility poles as part of a planned 1,500-pole replacement project. During routine inspections, poles showing signs of age, rot or woodpecker damage are identified and replaced before they can fail, helping the system better withstand high winds and severe weather.

Line upgrades are also underway across the service territory. In Haworth, crews are replacing poles and installing larger conductors along 1¼ miles of line to increase capacity. Near

Hochatown, crews completed a mile of double-circuit line outside the substation and are continuing another five miles of pole and conductor upgrades from the casino to Creekside RV.

Substation feeder maintenance has also continued at both the Bethel and Haworth substations. Crews are replacing aging crossarms, insulators and lightning arresters—equipment that naturally deteriorates over time and can be damaged during storms. These upgrades help reduce lightning-related outages and improve the overall reliability of the electric system.

By investing in preventive maintenance and replacing aging infrastructure before problems occur, CEC is helping ensure members receive safe, reliable power for years to come.

Office Closure

Choctaw Electric Cooperative's offices will be closed Monday, Sept. 7, in observance of Labor Day.

Go Paperless

Sign up for paperless billing via the SmartHub app or call Choctaw Electric Cooperative at 800-780-6486.

Buddy Ball is Back

Grab your glove and meet us on the diamond this fall—Buddy Ball returns Saturday, Oct. 3, 2026! This free, non-competitive game is designed for children through adults with physical, intellectual or developmental disabilities. To register, contact Jia Johnson at 800-780-6486, ext. 241, or visit our website for a registration form. Let's play ball!

Summer Energy Savings Tip

The August heat can put your A/C to the test. A dirty, clogged filter restricts airflow, forcing your cooling system to work harder to keep your home comfortable. That extra strain can reduce efficiency, increase energy use and contribute to unnecessary wear and tear on equipment. Inspect your filter monthly during periods of heavy A/C use and replace it if it appears dirty.

Powering and Empowering

Oklahoma's electric cooperatives have a strong economic impact on our state. In 2024, co-ops retired nearly \$34 million in capital credits to members, including Choctaw Electric Cooperative's \$2.1 million in retired capital credits. Read more about capital credits on Page 2.

Lucky Acct. #16398001

If this is your account number, please contact CEC at 800-780-6486, ext. 241, by the 5th of the month to claim your \$25 bill credit. Unclaimed bill credits roll over each month by \$25 for a maximum credit of \$100.

Help make a difference: Use less electricity from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

When CEC members shift use of large appliances such as washers and dryers, dishwashers and ovens to off-peak hours (before 3 p.m. and after 7 p.m.), it helps CEC avoid seasonal demand charges from our wholesale power provider, Western Farmers Electric. These charges affect your monthly electric costs. Please participate by using less during peak hours. Set your thermostat to the highest comfortable setting and reduce use of other large appliances. The more members who participate, the greater our savings will be!



CEC employees give the gift of life

On June 18, Choctaw Electric Cooperative employees came together to make a difference during the co-op's blood drive. Twenty-three donors participated, helping strengthen the local blood supply and providing donations that could save up to 69 lives. Pictured above (from left) are employees Brad Kendrick, Lacey Peters, CEO Kooney Duncan, Michael Melton and Karan Daniels. Thank you to everyone who rolled up a sleeve to support neighbors in need.



Choctaw Electric Cooperative's 2026 Annual Meeting

Saturday, Sept. 26, 8 a.m.
Hugo Agriplex, Hugo, OK

OTHER NOTABLE DATES

Aug. 27–Sept. 1

Mail-in ballots
delivered to members.

Sept. 1–16

Notification by mail of
Annual Meeting.

Showcase your historic CEC treasures!

Do you have a piece of memorabilia that reflects Choctaw Electric Cooperative's history? As part of our America's 250th Annual Meeting theme, we're creating a special display area for members to showcase their items. We'll also host a few fun contests with prizes.



Don't miss the chance to promote your business!

2026 Annual Meeting Vendor Booth Reservation Form

Saturday, September 26, 2026 | Hugo Agriplex

Organization: _____

Contact person: _____

Daytime Telephone: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Products to be displayed/sold: _____

Number of booth spaces: _____

Booth spaces are available first come, first serve. Vendors must bring their own tables, chairs and electrical cords. **Deadline to reserve booth: September 18, 2026**

Send booth reservation form to: Jia Johnson
Choctaw Electric Cooperative | PO Box 758, Hugo, OK 74743